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CIRCULATION

WEEK ENDING JAN. 15th, 1921

10,998

BLOCKING NOMINATIONS.

There are many offices to be filled throughout the country by the president with the consent and approval of the senate. Many nominations have already been made, many names are being suggested for this office and many others are constantly being added to the unexpired list as the end of the administration draws near.

Within a few days statements have been made to the effect that there will be no session of the senate at which there can be action taken upon these nominations. Unless the nominations are approved by the senate they amount to nothing and the vacancies must be filled by his successor. That will mean that unless in the closing days of his administration President Wilson is permitted to name those he desires, and it is to be presumed that the large proportion of them will be democrats, that what the president is entitled rightfully to do will be blocked. Even in the wild scramble for office that may not seem to be quite right, but that the senate is understanding to interfere with the president's duties and privileges and favoring the coming administration.

Politics is a great game. It isn't intended to give the other side any great advantage when it can be prevented, and if there is an apparent intention of the refusal to confirm a big batch of democratic appointments and thereby select democrats who are going to hold over into or through a republican administration it cannot be forgotten by the democrats that this is the same old trick that they played at the close of the Taft administration. In fact it is only what they had reason to expect.

Because the democrats did it doesn't mean that it is a nice thing to do. Neither does it mean that a wrong is righted by repeating it on the other side. It is a sample of worthy emulation, but every thing goes in war and politics and there is always something to see that the efforts of one party to continue its grasp on office are not any more successful than the efforts of the other party to get it in a position to do so. In politics it is a revealed version of the Golden Rule that prevails.

THE WORCESTER FIRE.

Trouble is apt to come in bunches and what would appear to be the situation in Worcester where the fire of Jan. 19, 1920, made the 19th of January a day that will not be soon forgotten.

Conditions developed in connection with the fire which point strongly to the fact that more than carelessness or accident was involved in starting the destructive work of the flames. Cold weather, especially sudden changes to severe cold, is apt to result in overheating or the extra efforts develop a defectiveness in the flue which had not been previously disclosed. But in one of the Worcester fire buildings there was no heating plant, and when as the result of investigations which have been made by the state police the state fire marshal is informed that the fire was set in one of the three principal centers, and evidence is furnished showing efforts to start the building, it would appear that Worcester was suffering from the actions of a pyromaniac or a well organized plot to terrorize the city.

From investigations which are already underway the authorities are convinced of the danger that exists as long as the responsibility for the series of disastrous fires remains unfixed. It cannot fail to appreciate the need of getting to the bottom of the matter and making an example of those who may have been concerned in causing such a loss of property and threatening the remainder of the business section.

No city can rest easy as long as the insurance prevails that there is a fire going at large waiting to apply his torch with deadly aim. It was fortunate indeed that Worcester escaped without loss of life and with so few accidents in connection with the fire and but for the ability of the firemen to confine the fire to the buildings that they did the situation in this respect might have been much different.

PROTECTING INVESTORS.

While new efforts are being made in this state concerning "blue law" legislation, or changes that it is believed is advisable for the protection of the legitimate dealer in securities as well as the buyer, it is interesting to note that Massachusetts is being urged at the session of the legislature in that state to take such laws.

Wherever urged, such laws are for the protection of those who in a great many cases ought to know better than to deal with strangers and sharpers when investing their hard earned funds. For the purpose of discouraging those who are working schemes to get rich quick and to throw about investment transactions and restrictions which will not harm the legitimate dealer but will safeguard the interests of the little fellow who too often places implicit confidence in the out and out crook.

Millions of dollars are lost every year through the purchase of stocks that are worthless, which are of a doubtful character and highly speculative when sold at a profit. It is a well known fact that the money is turned over the buyer, but the little fellow who is not a professional investor is not a professional investor. When it is estimated that there are approximately 100,000,000 shares of stock in the United States, it is not surprising that the Massachusetts legislature is being urged to take such laws.

Those who wish the weatherman had charge of prices would be satisfied on the downward trend but they would expect him to relinquish control after getting them down to zero.

Those responsible for the letter to an Indiana householder threatening to kidnap a child unless a certain sum was paid haven't been impressed with the penalty applied in connection with such crimes.

DISINTERESTED SCHEME

"Garnett is going over to call on Mildred this evening," announced the girl with the snub nose bursing breathlessly into the room. "I was sitting right next her in the library when they made the date." "That snip!" cried the young woman with the freshly waved hair, unbelievably. "How'd she do it? Garnett is the slipperiest youth on the campus and would rather be shot than go calling."

"I've been trying to ask him for months," wailed the girl with the lovely complexion, "and the way he has of putting one over on me! I'll bet she chloroformed him!" "Well, what'll we do about it?" demanded the girl with the practical mind. "I think we had better go over and see Mildred this evening ourselves."

"Oh, we couldn't do that!" cried the girl with the snub nose. "She'd never forgive us!" "Well, what'll we do about it?" demanded the girl with the practical mind. "I think we had better go over and see Mildred this evening ourselves."

"Even then we could lose," the girl with the waved hair assured her. "If you'd better all go together," advised the girl with the practical mind. "And what ever you do keep Garnett from talking to Mildred. She'll be the boss and, of course, must converse with all of us and we can arrange to take turns with her. The rest of you engage Mildred and I'll—"

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Cost of Market

Inventories may be taken either on the basis of cost or market value, whichever is lower. In the case of a merchant "cost" means the invoice price less trade or other discounts, excepting strictly cash discounts approximating a fair rate of interest, which may be deducted or not at the option of the taxpayer providing a consistent course is followed.

To the net invoice price should be added to the cost of transportation and other necessary charges incurred in acquiring possession of the goods. In the case of a manufacturer "cost" means the cost of raw materials and supplies, expenditures for labor, and indirect costs incident to production, including a reasonable proportion of management expenses but not including any cost of selling or securing return on capital.

"Market" means the current bid price prevailing at the date of the inventory for the particular merchandise. The burden of proof as to the correctness of the price rests upon the taxpayer in each case. If two "costs" are made, each class of goods must be itemized and the cost or market price of each shown separately. The value of each item in the inventory may be made on the basis of cost or market whichever is lower. An entire stock may not be inventoried at cost and also at market price, and the lower of the two inventories used.

No special system of accounts is prescribed by the Bureau of Internal Revenue, but the books must show in detail the following: purchases, sales, capital, investments, and similar items required in making up an income tax return. The inventory which can not be taken without some form of a book return. Without it the direction in which the business is heading, for success or failure, can not be determined.

Taxable Income

In the making of an income tax return for the year 1920, taxpayers of every class, business and professional men, wage earners, and farmers should present to themselves for consideration the following questions:

Have you any interest in bank deposits? Have you any property from which you receive rent? Did you receive any income in the form of dividend or interest from stocks or bonds? Did you receive any bonuses during the year?

Did you act as a broker in any transaction from which you received commissions? Are you interested in any partnership or other firm from which you receive any income? Have you any income from royalties or patents? Have you any minor children who are working?

Have you control of the earnings of such children? If so, the amount must be included in the return. If not, the wife may receive any income from any source whatsoever? If so, it must be included in your return or reported on a separate return of income.

Do you hold any office in a benefit society from which you receive income? Have you received any directors' fees or trustees' fees in the course of the year? Do you hold any office in a benefit society from which you receive income? Have you received any directors' fees or trustees' fees in the course of the year?

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Stories That Recall Others

Real Poetry. Leslie, aged 16, came home from school somewhat peevish because the teacher had praised highly Edgar Allen Poe's "The Bells," published in one of the school readers.

He said with evidence of that professional jealousy which is displayed by poetry writers: "The teacher calls 'The Bells' real poetry, but I call it doggerel. I can write better poetry than that myself."

Whereupon his mother asked him to produce some. Soon he returned and very exultantly handed his mother the following and said, "Now that is real poetry!" Pat and Mike went down the pike to get a dozen chickens.

Only the Ghosts. Although to most persons, perhaps, the idea of a ghost is far more terrifying than that of a storm, children may have different ideas on this question, as was shown by a 5 year old. He was playing in a room in which his mother was seated when a door cracked.

Evidently thinking she was afraid, the youngster remarked reassuringly: "Oh, mother, I don't suppose it's going to storm. Maybe that was only ghosts creaking the door."

A Discovery. "Some of the greatest discoveries," said the scientist, astorously, "have been the result of accidents."

"I can readily believe that," replied his fair companion. "I once made one that way myself."

The great man blinked his amazement. "What discovery?"

"The discovery that I was a fool," replied the scientist.

"That's a discovery," said the scientist.

"That's a discovery," said the scientist.